

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) An image transmission system for transmitting an image via a network, said image transmission system comprising:

- one or a plurality of image pickup apparatus each having a unique identifying number and having an encrypting function for encrypting a picked-up image for transmission to said network;
- a key generating apparatus for generating, for each said image pickup apparatus, an encryption key for encrypting said image and a decryption key for decrypting said encrypted image;
- a removable recording medium for recording said decryption key and the identifying number of said image pickup apparatus in association with each other;
- a viewing apparatus connected with said removable recording medium and having a decrypting function for decrypting said encrypted image using said decryption key, for viewing the image transmitted via said network by said image pickup apparatus; and
- an authenticating server for authenticating said image pickup apparatus accessible from said viewing apparatus.

2. (Original) An image transmission system for transmitting an image via a network, said image transmission system comprising:

- one or a plurality of image pickup apparatus each having a unique identifying number;
- a key generating apparatus for encrypting an image picked up by said image pickup apparatus and transmitting the image to said network, and generating a decryption key for decrypting said encrypted image;
- a removable recording medium for recording said decryption key and the identifying number of said image pickup apparatus in association with each other;
- a viewing apparatus connected with said removable recording medium and having a decrypting function for decrypting said encrypted image using said decryption key, for viewing the image transmitted via said network by said image pickup apparatus; and

an authenticating server for authenticating said image pickup apparatus accessible from said viewing apparatus.

3. (Original) An image transmission system for transmitting an image via a network, said image transmission system comprising:

- one or a plurality of image pickup apparatus each having a unique identifying number;
- a transmitting apparatus for encrypting an image picked up by said image pickup apparatus and transmitting the image to said network;
- a key generating apparatus for generating, for each said image pickup apparatus, an encryption key for encrypting said image and a decryption key for decrypting said encrypted image;
- a removable recording medium for recording said decryption key and the identifying number of said image pickup apparatus in association with each other;
- a viewing apparatus connected with said removable recording medium and having a decrypting function for decrypting said encrypted image using said decryption key, for viewing the image transmitted via said network by said image pickup apparatus; and
- an authenticating server for authenticating said image pickup apparatus accessible from said viewing apparatus.

4. (Original) An image transmission system for transmitting an image via a network, said image transmission system comprising:

- one or a plurality of image pickup apparatus each having a unique identifying number and having an encrypting function for encrypting a picked-up image for transmission to said network;
- a key generating apparatus for generating, for each said image pickup apparatus, an encryption key for said image pickup apparatus to encrypt the image and a decryption key;
- a removable recording medium for recording said decryption key and the identifying number of said image pickup apparatus in association with each other; and

a viewing apparatus connected with said removable recording medium and having a decrypting function for decrypting said encrypted image using said decryption key, for viewing the image transmitted via said network by said image pickup apparatus.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) An image pickup apparatus unit comprising:

an image pickup apparatus having a unique identifying number and having an encrypting function for encrypting a picked-up image for transmission to a network; and
a removable recording medium for recording a decryption key for decrypting the image encrypted by said image pickup apparatus and the identifying number of said image pickup apparatus in association with each other.

wherein said image pickup apparatus receives an encryption key for encrypting said image from a key generating apparatus.

10. (Cancelled).

11. (Original) An image pickup apparatus unit as claimed in claim 9, wherein said removable recording medium receives the decryption key for decrypting said image from a key generating apparatus.

12. (Currently Amended) An image pickup apparatus unit as claimed in claim 9, wherein said image pickup apparatus is at least one of a USB camera and an IP camera.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Original) A key generating apparatus for generating an encryption key used for encryption processing in transmitting an image via a network, and a decryption key, wherein

said key generating apparatus generates the encryption key for encrypting said image and transmits the encryption key to an image pickup apparatus having a unique identifying number and having an encrypting function for encrypting a picked-up image for transmission to the network; and

said key generating apparatus generates the decryption key for decrypting said encrypted image and transmits the decryption key to a removable recording medium for recording said decryption key and the identifying number of said image pickup-apparatus in association with each other.

15. (Original) A key generating apparatus as claimed in claim 14, wherein said key generating apparatus has a linking function for linking said image pickup apparatus to said network.

16. (Original) A key generating apparatus as claimed in claim 14, wherein said key generating apparatus has a compressing function for compressing the image picked up by said image pickup apparatus.

17. (Currently Amended) A computer program, stored on a computer readable medium, for making a computer function as the key generating apparatus of claim 14.

18. (New) A computer program, stored on a computer readable medium, comprising the steps of:

initializing a image transmission system, comprising

connecting an image pickup apparatus and a memory card to a key generating apparatus;

transmitting an identifying number from the image pickup apparatus to the key generating apparatus;

registering the identifying number from the image pickup apparatus at the key
generating apparatus and at an authentication server;
generating an encryption and decryption key unique to the image pickup apparatus;
then
requesting that the authentication server authenticate a user and authenticate that a user can
access the image pickup device;
authenticating the user and image pickup apparatus in response to the requesting step;
connecting the image pickup apparatus to a viewing apparatus;
comparing the identification number in the memory card to the identifying number of the
image pickup apparatus;
obtaining the decryption key from the memory card;
decrypting images received from the image pickup device using the decryption key;
displaying the decrypted images on the viewer.

19. (New) The method of claim 18, comprising:

accessing the authentication server from a viewing apparatus using a username and
password.

20. (New) An image transmission system for transmitting an image via a network, comprising:

an image pickup apparatus connected to a key generating apparatus, comprising:

a recording unit for storing an identifying number and an encryption key from the
key generating apparatus;

the key generating apparatus, comprising:

a network interface for registering the identifying number from the image pickup
apparatus at an authentication server;

a recording unit for storing the the identifying number from the image pickup
apparatus;

an encryption key generation unit for generating an encryption and decryption key
unique to the image pickup apparatus;

an interface for storing the decryption key in a removable storage medium;
an image viewer comprising:
an interface for requesting that the authentication server authenticate a user and
authenticate an image pickup device accessible by the user, and connecting the
image pickup apparatus to the viewing apparatus;
a memory interface for obtaining the decryption key from the removable storage
medium;
a decrypting unit for decrypting the images received from the image pickup device
using the decryption key;
a display unit for displaying the decrypted images on the viewer; and
an authentication server for authenticating the user and image pickup apparatus in response
to an authentication request.

21. (New) The system of claim 20, wherein the authentication server authenticates the user of
the viewing apparatus using a username and password associated with the image pickup apparatus.

22. (New) An image pickup apparatus used in an image transmission system for transmitting an
image via a network, said image pickup apparatus comprising:
a recording unit for recording a unique identifying number;
an encrypting unit for encrypting a picked-up image; and
a communicating unit for transmitting said encrypted image to a viewer that has been
authenticated by an authentication server and is permitted to receive encrypted images
from the image pickup apparatus.

23. (New) An image pickup apparatus as claimed in claim 22, wherein said communicating unit
includes a receiving unit for receiving an encryption key for encrypting said image from a key
generating apparatus.

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24. (New) An image pickup apparatus as claimed in claim 22, wherein said communicating unit includes at least one of a USB port and a recording unit records an IP address.